



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN REPAIR ACTIVITIES IN RIO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD

Saturday, December 21, 2019

Following is an update on City repair activities related to a 54-inch sewer main break located on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in the Rio Vista neighborhood, as well as ongoing cleanup and remediation efforts in the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive.

Operations at Virginia Young Park

- The pit around the break area remains stable with no spillage entering the streets.
- Tanker and vacuum trucks continue to service the area as part of pumping operations at locations in the vicinity of the site.
- Work continues on assembling a 36-inch bypass line that will run from Hector Park over the SE 9th Avenue bridge and connect to the 54-inch pipe just north of SE 9 Street.
- The contractor continues excavation work in the vicinity of SE 9 Avenue and SE 9 Street. A trench box has been installed to stabilize the ground around the exposed pipe and provide safety for the workers.
- Crews continue to prepare the section of the 54-inch pipe for the installation of saddling and line stop apparatus.
- With heavy rain expected today, stormwater staff will be on site monitoring tidal valves, storm drains and catch basins to address potential flooding issues. Additional vacuum trucks will be ready to respond if needed.
- CBI will begin sludge removal and cleaning work today on the east side of Virginia Young Park and continue eastward along South Rio Vista Blvd.
- Virginia Young Park remains closed while repair activities are taking place.
- Neighbors are reminded that the area in and around Virginia Young Park is an active construction zone. For the safety of everyone, access to the construction area is limited to appropriate operational and management personnel.

Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area

- A street sweeper conducted cleaning activities on Ponce de Leon Drive this morning.
- Equipment continues to be removed from Hector Park as part of demobilization.
- Hector Park remains closed to the public.
- Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) will continue to be on site conducting cleaning activities where needed.
- The south side of Ponce de Leon Drive at SE 9 Avenue has reopened.

Environmental Activities

- 11 aerators continue to operate 24/7 to help improve water quality in the Tarpon River and New River.
- Boats continue to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista during daylight hours conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.
- Planning is underway for air lancing activities in the Tarpon River to help break down the organic material that has been discharged into the waterway.

-Planning is underway for air quality testing to monitor the air quality index in the affected area.

Road Closures

-Roads in the immediate vicinity of Virginia Young Park are closed including SE 10 Street between SE 9 Avenue and Rio Vista Boulevard, as well as Rio Vista Boulevard between SE 9 Avenue and SE 9 Street.

-A portion of SE 9 Avenue in the vicinity of SE 9 Street is closed where workers are conducting excavation activities.

-When the bypass pipe is positioned in place along SE 9 Avenue, there will be no access east of SE 9 Avenue at SE 9 Street, SE 10 Street, or Rio Vista Blvd.

Safety Tips

-Neighbors in the affected area are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.

-If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.

-Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill.

-Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities

-A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.

-The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.

-To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.

-To view updates on the City's website, please visit <http://bit.ly/2rBJhLk>.

For More Information

Neighbors are encouraged to stay in touch by visiting the City's website at www.fortlauderdale.gov or following the City on social media at:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/CityofFortLauderdale/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/FTLCityNews>

Nextdoor – <https://www.nextdoor.com>

Neighbors may also call the City's 24-hour Neighbor Call Center at 954-828-8000.

###